

CHAPTER -7 OUTCOMES OF DEMOCRACY

POLITICAL SCIENCE

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Q1. What is meant by transparency?

Ans. Right or means to examine the process of decision-making is called transparency. This factor is often missing in the non-democratic government.

Q2. How can you say that democracies are based on political equality?

Ans. Democracies are based on political equality, it means that all the citizens in the economy have equal weight in electing the government. Democracies have one vote, one value and equal political rights. Therefore, any eligible citizen can contest elections and cast vote irrespective of gender, religion, caste, economic status etc.

Q3. On what factors does economic development of a country depend?

Ans. Economic development of a country depends on factors such as:

- a) Country's population size
- b) Global situation
- c) Cooperation from other countries
- d) Economic priorities adopted by the country

Q4. What is the normal procedure of a democratic government?

Ans. a) It should hold regular, free and fair elections.
b) Open public debates on major policies and legislation.
c) Right to information about the government and its functioning should be provided to citizens.

Q5. How can you say that democracy is better than dictatorship?

Ans. Democracy is better than dictatorship because:

- a) Democracy promotes equality among citizens.
- b) It enhances the dignity of the individual.
- c) It also improves the quality of decision making

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- d) It provides methods to resolve conflicts
- e) Democracy allows room to correct mistakes
- f) It is legitimate government
- g) Gives equal status and respect to weaker sections.

Q6. How much time is taken in democracy to take decisions as compared to other governments?

Ans.

- a) A non-democratic government may take decisions very fast but it may take such decisions that are not acceptable to people and thus may face opposition.
- b) A democratic government will take more time to follow procedures before arriving at a decision.
- c) But because it has followed procedures, its decisions will be more acceptable to the people and more effective.

So, the cost of time that democracy pays is perhaps worth it.

Q7. How does democracy promote the dignity and freedom of an individual?

Ans. a) Every individual wants to receive respect from fellow beings.

b) Often conflicts arise among individuals because some feel that they are not treated with respect.

c) The passion for respect and freedom are the basis of democracy. Democracy in India has strengthened the claims of the disadvantaged and discriminated castes for equal status and equal opportunity.

Q8. “Democracy accommodates social diversities.” Support the statement with examples.

Ans. a) Democracies develop a procedure to conduct their competition. This reduces the possibility of tensions becoming explosive or violent.

b) No society can fully or permanently resolve conflicts among different groups. But we can certainly learn to respect differences and can evolve mechanism to negotiate these differences.

c) Ability to handle social differences, divisions and conflicts is thus a definite plus point of democratic regimes.

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d) For example: Belgium has successfully negotiated differences among ethnic population.

**Q9. “Democratic governments in practice are known as accountable.”
Support the statement with arguments.**

Ans. a) A democratic government is accountable to the people because if it ignores the will of the people, they will not elect their ruler in the next elections.

b) The procedures and decision-making process should be transparent for democratic government to be accountable to the people.

c) It is also expected that the democratic government develops mechanisms for citizens to take part in decision making.

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